



**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**News Release**

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR

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WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
CHAIRPERSON

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For Immediate Release: July 25, 2011

**DLNR CLOSURE OF WAIALEA BAY AND  
HAPUNA BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA  
DUE TO SHARK SIGHTINGS**

HAPUNA, HAWAII — Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) closed Waialea Bay and Hapuna Beach State Recreation Area (SRA) today due shark sightings on Sunday, July 24. Given the recent shark sightings close to shore, DLNR staff deemed it necessary to close the park areas through noon on Tuesday, July 26. Both park entrance gates will be closed.

“The closures of these two areas are precautionary measures to ensure safety of the public,” says William J. Aila, Jr., DLNR Chairperson.

According to Hawai‘i County Civil Defense, today three tiger sharks were seen in this morning’s flyover, sizes ranged from 12 – 14 feet in length. Two tiger sharks were observed by Ocean Safety just north of Hapuna SRA about 20 – 50 yards off shore. The third tiger shark was observed to the south of Hapuna SRA.

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